

TOWN OF WILTON BUDGET COMMITTEE

CONTINUED BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING FINAL MEETING MINUTES

February 16, 2016

**Location: Wilton Town Hall: Court Room
7:00 P.M.**

Members Present: Don Davidson (Vice-Chairman); Betsy Castro, Harry Dailey, Joyce Fisk, Donna Pucciarello, William Condra (Selectmen's Rep.)

1. Vice Chairman Davidson called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Minutes Review and Approval – January 30th, 2016

Motion was made by Ms. Castro to accept the minutes of January 30, 2016 as written; seconded by Ms. Fisk; all in favor; motion passes unanimously.

3. Minutes Review and Approval – February 2nd, 2016

Motion was made by Ms. Castro to accept the minutes of February 2, 2016 as written; seconded by Ms. Fisk; all in favor; motion passes unanimously.

4. Review Warrant Articles:

#7 – Regarding the Town Administrator – Ms. Castro (Motion) / Ms Fisk (Second)

Discussion: Ms Castro suggested changing the warrant article to show \$50,000 represents only six months' salary for the position – not a full year. Mr. Condra stated this subject was brought up at the Selectman's meeting and it was determined the warrant article would remain as is. Mr. Dailey voiced his concerns - mirroring Ms. Castro's concern – stating the warrant article should be written to clearly state what the \$50,000 represents.

Motion was made by Ms. Castro to accept the warrant article as written; seconded by Ms. Fisk; 1 in favor; 3 Nays; 1 abstention; Budget Committee does not recommend Warrant Article #7.

#8 – Regarding the Town Hall Heat Replacement – Ms. Castro (Motion)/Ms. Fisk (Second)

Discussion: Mr. Dailey voiced concern about using a pellet system in the Town Hall; the cost/time to maintain the system; along with the lack of storage space for the pellets. Mr. Dailey also stated that the new renovations on the portion of the Town Hall previously

TOWN OF WILTON BUDGET COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes for February 16, 2016

used as the old police station cannot incorporate the new heating system since plans have not been completed yet. Suggested they use the monies available to conduct a study in 2016.

Motion was made by Ms. Castro to accept the warrant article as written; seconded by Ms. Fisk; 0 in favor; 5 Nays; Budget Committee does not recommend Warrant Article #8.

#10 – Regarding the Land Use Tax Change – Ms. Castro (Motion) / Ms Fisk (Second)

Discussion: Mr. Dailey voiced concerned about how much land is already in current use. Question using money raised when land goes out of current use to purchase conservation land. Mr. Bart Hunter expressed concern about contamination of well water if we continue to build housing in Wilton. Mr. Hunter was also concerned that an increase in the town of Wilton's population would require an increase in services (i.e. police, fire) to cover the cost of increase in population.

Mr. Dailey stated the schools were actually showing decline in pupils and stated we actually need to build up the town of Wilton to increase our tax income. Mr. Dailey also stated the schools, fire department, police department, etc. are currently under-utilized so we would not need to increase services.

Motion was made by Ms. Castro to accept the warrant article as written; seconded by Ms. Fisk; 1 in favor; 4 Nays; Budget Committee does not recommend Warrant Article #10.

#12 – Regarding King Brook Road Bridge - Wording Change only (state required) – Ms. Castro (Motion) / Ms. Fisk (Second)

Motion was made by Ms. Castro to accept the warrant article as written; seconded by Ms. Fisk; 5 in favor; Budget Committee recommends Warrant Article #12.

#16 – Recycling – rewording only - Ms. Castro (Motion) / Ms. Fisk (Second)

Motion was made by Ms. Castro to accept the warrant article as written; seconded by Ms. Fisk; 5 in favor; Budget Committee recommends Warrant Article #16 (see below for updated voting for this warrant article).

#17 – Recycling – rewording only - Ms. Castro (Motion) / Ms. Fisk (Second)

Discussion: Mr. Davidson, after reading the revised warrant article, voiced his concern that the warrant article provides the Recycling Center with a "Blank Check" and that the taxpayers no longer have a vote on the budgets/spending of the Recycling Center. Mr. Condra stated this issue did not come up at Selectman's meeting. The warrant article was rewritten based on DRA recommendation. It was not written with the intent of Budget Committee's recommendation.

TOWN OF WILTON BUDGET COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes for February 16, 2016

Motion was made by Ms. Castro to accept the warrant article #17 as written; seconded by Ms. Fisk; 0 in favor; 4 Nays; 1 Abstention. Budget Committee does not recommend Warrant Article #17.

Reopened #16

Motion was made by Ms. Castro to reopen the warrant article #16 as based on the discussion surrounding Warrant Article #17; seconded by Ms. Fisk; 5 in favor; Warrant Article #16 is reopened.

Motion was made by Ms. Castro to accept the warrant article #16 as written; seconded by Ms. Fisk; 0 in favor; 5 Nays. Budget Committee does not recommend Warrant Article #16.

This closes the discussion on Warrant Articles Recommendations.

1. Other Business - None

2. Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Ms. Castro and seconded by Ms. Fisk; all in favor. The Budget Committee was adjourned at 7:38 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Pucciarello
Member, Acting Secretary